Decline in the Production of Silk

678. SHRI M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the silk production in the country has declined steeply inspite of the ambitious target of achieving self sufficiency by the Central Silk Board (CSB);

(b) if so, the total production of silk of different kinds during the last three years; State-wise, year-wise;

(c) the reasons for decline in the production of silk in the country; and

(d) the steps taken by the Central Government to achieve the target set by the Central Silk Board and to counter the threat of cheaper China silk?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There was reduction in the total domestic production of mulberry raw silk during last two years. The main reason for this decline was continuous drought conditions prevailing in the traditional sericulture states during 2002-2003 and 2003-04. Also surge in imports of raw silk mainly from China since 2001 coupled with steep fall in prices disrupted the Indian silk market and adversely affected cropping pattern of a large number of cocoon growers of most of the States specially Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. However, there was no decline in non-mulberry raw silk production during 2002-03 and 2003-04. The production of raw silk during the last three years i.e. 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04, state-wise and year-wise is given in the enclosed statement. (See below)

(d) Several programmes and schemes to achieve the target and to counter the threat of cheaper China silk have been instituted. The major ones are:—

Research and Development efforts of Central Silk Board have been stepped up to improve quantity, quality and productivity of sericulture, by evolution of more productive and stress tolerant breeds and hybrids of mulberry and non-mulberry food plants and silkworms; and development of low cost reeling and processing technologies in silk;

Seed Support & Technical Assistance is being given by the Central Silk Board to State Governments, farmers & reelers by maintenance

of parent races and basic seed, supply of commercial seed, and augmentation of grainage facilities for production of disease free high yielding and drought resistant seeds;

Central assistance is being extended to states through Centrally Sponsored & Central sector schemes to strengthen farm infrastructure, increase area under sericulture, upgrade reeling facilities, improve finishing processes, strengthen cocoon & silk testing systems;

Low cost and productivity enhancing technologies developed by the Central Silk Board are being popularized through central assistance to beneficiaries, training to the States' extension machinery and beneficiaries, organizing of various awareness programmes, etc;

For technology upgradation of the indigenous silk industry loan at 5% point less than applicable bank rate, under the Technological Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) for the textiles sector is available *inter-alia* to silk sector.

Supply chain issues between the farmers, raw silk producers and the weavers are being addressed by advocating contract farming models, price linked grading, etc.

An amount of Rs. 450 crores has been provided in the X Plan for the Sericulture sector to support the above strategy & programmes;

Antidumping duty has been imposed by Govt, of India with effect from 2nd January, 2003 on all imported mulberry raw silk (not thrown) of international grade 2A and below, originated in or exported from People's Republic of China, so as to keep the landed value of these goods at US$ 27.97 per kg.

Statement

State-wise Prodcution of Mulberry and Non-mulberry Rawsilk during the last three years i.e. 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04

UnitMT

State	2001-2002					2002-2003					2003-2004				
	Mulberry	Tasar	Eri	Muga	Total	Mulberry	Tasar	Eri	Muga	Total	Mulberry	Tasar	Eri	Muga	Total
Andhra Pradesh	4775	3	—	—	4778	5629	21	—	—	5650	6054	14	—	—	5650
Assam	12	—	449	93	554	15	—	463	9S	574	8	—	480	99	574
Arunachal Pradesh	Neg	—	3	0.5	4	2	—	13	0.5	16	—	—	3	0.2	16
Bihar	4	8	19	—	31	5	8	30	—	43	6	8	18	—	43
Chattisgarh	2	77	—	—	79	2	64	—	—	66	1	118	—	—	66
Gujarat	—	—	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	0	—	—		—	0
Himachal Pradesh	10	—	—	—	10	17	—	—	—	17	12	—		—	17
Haryana	—	—	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	0
Jammu & Kashmir	80	—	—	—	80	100	—	—	—	100	85	—	—	—	100
Jharkhand	2	92	—	—	94	2	90			92	0.5	84	—	—	92
Karnataka	8728	—	—	—	8728	6760	—	—	—	6760	5949	—	—	—	6760
Kerala	3	—	—	—	3	3		—	—	3	4	—	—	—	3
Madhva Pradesh	6	6	—	—	12	8	7	—	—	15	9	13	—	—	15
Maharashtra	54	3	—	—	57	65	9	—	—	74	42	8	—	—	74
Manipur	59	1	365	0.5	426	27	1	458	Neg	486	27	1	434	—	486
Mizoram	4	—	3	Neg	7	5	—	Neg	Neg	5	5	—	3	—	5

State	2001-2002					2002-2003					2003-2004				
	Mulberry	Tasar	Eri	Muga	Total	Mulberry	Tasar	Eri	Muga	Total	Mulberry	Tasar	Eri	Muga	Total
Meghalaya	2	—	282	4	288	2	—	271	5	278	2	—	317	6	278
Nagaland	Neg	—	36	0.5	37	Neg	—	78	—	—	96	—	96		
Orissa	5	33	—	—	38	6	54	—	—	60	2	37	—	—	60
Punjab	3	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	4
Rajasthan	—	—	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	0
Skkim	—	—	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	0	—	—	—	—	0
Tamil Nadu	655	—	—	—	655	490	—	—	—	490	285	—	—	—	490
Tripura	4	—	—	—	4	5	—	—	—	5	4	—	—	—	5
Uttar Pradesh	10	3	—	—	13	10	3	—	—	13	9	2	—	—	13
Uttaranchal	17	—	—	—	17	10	—	—	—	10	9	3	—	—	10
West Bengal	1407	23	3	0.5	1434	1450	27	3	0.5	1481	1453	27	1	02	1481
TOTAL.	15842	249	1160	100	17351	14617	284	1316	102	16319	13970	315	1352	105	15742

P: Provisional